GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3992
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2008
HALLMARKING CENTRES
Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of gold and jewellery sold in the country during the last three years;

(b) the number of Gold Hallmarking Centres presently operational in the country,state-wise;

(c) whether the Goverment is considering any proposal to set up more Gold Hallmarking Centres in the country;

(d) if so,the details thereof;and

(e) the time by which the above Centres are likely to be set up?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS,FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a): Data regarding the Quantity of Gold and Jewellery sold in the country is not maintained by Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)/ Department of Consumer Affairs.

(b): As on date 93 Assaying and Hallmarking Centres recognized by Bureau of Indian Standards are operational in the country,and the State-wise details are as under;

SI.No.	State	No. of Centres
1	New Delhi	9
2	Karnataka	11
3	Kerala	15
4	Andhra Pradesh	7
5	Tamil Nadu	18
6	Gujarat	10
7	Maharashtra	11

8 West Bengal 5

9 Madhya Pradesh 2

10 Rajasthan 1

11 Punjab 1

12 Uttar Pradesh 1

13 Chattisgam 1

14 Chandigarh 1

Total 93

(c) & (d): In order to facilitate establishing adequate infrastructure in the country, under the Scheme for setting up of Gold Hallmarking & Assaying Centres, one time financial assistance @ 15% of cost of machinery and equipment subject to maximum of Rs.15 lakhs per centre for all States except locations of North-East and special category States namely Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand for which such financial assistance @ 30% of cost of machinery and equipment subject to maximum of Rs.30 lakhs per centre is extended to the eligible applicants.

(e): The Plan Scheme for setting up of Gold Hallmarking and Assaying Centres was introduced during X Plan period and has been extended to the XI Plan (2007-12) also.The target for the XI Plan is to facilitate setting up of 50 Gold Hallmarking and Assaying Centres.